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caponil, 'capon style, capon wise'; *correrse*, 'to get (be) ashamed' (p. 1, l. 18); *dar de*, 'to hit with, to deal (blows)'; *sea á merced*, '[for pay] I'll take my chances on your generosity' (p. 16, l. 259); *ofrecer*, 'to promise' (p. 21, l. 14); *pasar, v. a.*, 'to do' (p. 39, l. 102); *plata quebrada* refers us to a note that, to my regret, seems to have dropped out in printing. It would, perhaps, have proven that the term can mean "small change," a signification with which I am unfamiliar—at least, it cannot pertain to the passage of p. 81, l. 62, where the translation is: 'battered plate' (that is, as good as coin, because the real ownership cannot be proven).

Summing up, it is a pleasure to record that Dr. Bourland has approached his task in a truly scholarly spirit. The text of the play, if overhauled once more (in which the publisher should also do his share, for the type betrays many signs of long use), may well be accepted as final and standard; while the Introduction and Notes are far and away the best that have yet accompanied a Spanish text published in this country. In short, this edition of *Don Gil* deserves to be ranked with our best school-editions of French and German classics, the more so, since for Spanish classic dramas, with hardly an exception, the editor must be his own pioneer, even to the establishing of his text and the making of his dictionary and grammar.

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CORRESPONDENCE.

HISTORY OF THE INTERNATIONAL CORRESPONDENCE IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

TO THE EDITORS OF MOD. LANG. NOTES,

SIRS:—Some years ago, soon after the first introduction of the International Correspondence between Professors, Teachers, Students, professional men and women, and others, for the purpose of making a more complete and practical study of foreign languages, my attention was first turned toward this new departure in the educational field by Prof. Thomas A. Jenkins, then Professor of the Ro-

mance Languages in Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee, and now Professor in the same department in the University of Chicago. He had at that time a few students entering upon this work. Of course it will be understood that I refer to the system devised by Prof. P. Mieille, of the Lycée de Tarbes, of Tarbes, France, and who is this year the French editor of *Comrades All*. I introduced the system at once into Swarthmore College, Swarthmore, Pennsylvania, and since that time a very considerable number of the students in French, and later quite a number of those in German, have been engaged in this correspondence. Gradually, by a series of letters in the public journals explaining this correspondence, and setting forth its advantages for all pursuing the study of spoken foreign languages, the attention of teachers, especially those of the Modern Languages, was turned toward the subject, and in several schools and colleges its introduction was begun. About this time quite an exhaustive history of the system abroad was prepared and published by Prof. Gaston Mouchet of Paris, and this was translated into English, and published in a leading educational New England magazine, the *Education* of Boston, Mass. This was the most effective public movement yet made, and about a year later the attention of the Modern Language Association of America was directed to it by a paper presented at their Annual meeting at the University of Virginia. At that meeting a committee of four was appointed to make further investigation, and report to the Association the result of their investigations at the annual meeting to be held the Christmas week of the following year. This was held at Columbia University (1899), when a very satisfactory report was presented, and the committee was continued, and five more members were added to the number, making a committee of nine, having general charge of the subject, with its central Bureau at Swarthmore College, at Swarthmore, Pa. That committee made a full report in 1900, at the annual meeting held at the University of Pennsylvania, and the committee was again continued without change. The present condition of the correspondence will be best understood by quoting from the Report made at

the Annual meeting at Harvard University, recently held in Christmas week. Without adhering to the exact language of the report, the general result reached can be stated as follows: The report of the previous year having been published in *MOD. LANG. NOTES*, of which a number of deprints were issued and distributed widely among teachers as circulars of information and encouragement, and later, the report having appeared in the published "Proceedings" of the Association, a very considerable impulse was given to the movement during the first year of the twentieth century, and during that year applications for correspondents were received at the central Bureau at Swarthmore, from eleven universities, seven colleges, four High Schools, and thirty one private persons. While this was encouraging, it leaves a very large part of our educational institutions, and the community in general, quite outside of the movement, yet to be reached by further strenuous effort, and an earnest propaganda worthy of so important a cause. The number of applications received in the year 1901 from the sources above named was as follows: three hundred and twenty-one for French correspondents, two hundred and fifty-seven for German, eleven for Italian, and six for Spanish correspondents. It will be seen that, these five hundred and ninety applicants having been supplied, it brings eleven hundred and eighty persons into communication with each other, each in two languages, during the past year, through the action of the Bureau direct, besides the large number of the friends of these who hear of the system, and are known to have furnished correspondents to each other, of which the Bureau has no account and no direct information.

And this introduces another side of this subject, never sufficiently considered, which requires explanation. Teachers often say that their hours for class instruction are so few and so crowded that they have not time to introduce this correspondence. It is precisely because of this condition of the class-work that this system affords relief, instead of giving an added burden to bear. No time whatever need be occupied with the correspondence during the recitation hours, but the students of different nationalities being once introduced

to each other, and started in the work, carry it on themselves, without assistance from their teachers, receiving all needed assistance from each others criticisms and corrections. This is not mere theory, but practice, as I have observed it in my classes from year to year. An occasional letter of special interest, or amusing errors made in attempts at a foreign tongue, may occasionally be read in class as a variation of the monotony of what is sometimes too dull and tedious, and this can be done without at all exposing the names of the writers of such letters, if so desired. And it has been observed that the added interest in the class shown by those who are corresponding, and who have been corresponding longest, makes of a study which might otherwise become dull and monotonous, a study full of vitality and spirit. One may almost say that it gives the work a new meaning, changing it from the dull study of a dead unspoken language to that which may be called a living language indeed. And again, this work begun in term time, is not suspended in vacations, for the interest of vacation, at home and in travel, inspires the student with new themes, and thus the correspondence once well started in term time, is active throughout the entire year. And not only so, it goes on from year to year, long after leaving school or college, and may lead to many new friendships and business relations, and thus be a life long source of pleasure and profit to those thus engaged. It is hoped, therefore, that teachers will no longer say that they have not the time necessary for the introduction of the International Correspondence; on the other hand, they are too much crowded by the work, in the ordinary way, to be able to do without the relief which this correspondence affords.

The financial side of the question requires a brief notice. The aim of the bureau is to make as light a charge as possible, to cover the actual expense incurred for stamps, stationery, type-writing, printing circulars, etc., including foreign fees when charged abroad. And this expense is incurred but once, and not repeated in any individual cases after the correspondence is once begun. This may be illustrated by saying that the entire amount of fees paid this bureau in 1901 is an average of

about ten cents for each person supplied. Of course to secure this result the labor of office work is given without charge.

The report of the Committee on the International Correspondence given at Harvard concluded with an earnest recommendation to patronize and circulate as widely as possible the new Annual started last Easter, and issued from the office of the *Review of Reviews* in London, called in English *Comrades All*. It is believed that this annual, published in three or four languages, will prove an invaluable aid in propagating the correspondence in England, France, Germany, and America, and probably in Italy and Spain, where this movement is beginning to assume a promising condition.

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RABELAIS' PANTAGRUEL.

TO THE EDITORS OF MOD. LANG. NOTES,

SIRS:—In the February number of 1901 I called attention to the discovery, by Rosenthal of Munich, of what he believed to be the original text of the fifth book of Rabelais' *Pantagruel*. It looks very much as if the hopes at first entertained with regard to the value of the find must be given up.

A careful examination has been made by experts (Gaston Paris, Emile Picot, Abel Le-franc, Henri Stein, etc.) and they are unanimous in declaring that there can be nothing common between Rabelais and the text owned by Rosenthal.

The impression of those scholars who were in a position to judge *de visu* is well summed up by H. Stein, archivist at the "Archives Nationales" in Paris, in his communication to the *Bibliographe Moderne*, which is reprinted separately by Picard et Fils, Paris, 1901, under the title: *Un Rabelais apocryphe de 1549*.

The book was without doubt printed in the sixteenth century—1549 as the title page indicates—during the time of Rabelais; but it is nevertheless an important forgery. Moreover a poor and careless forgery. The style is absolutely colorless. As to the contents, several extracts given by Stein more than suffice to

convince one that anything but the Rabelaisian genius is to be found in these pages.

Then, there is no fourth chapter, while on the other hand, there are two twelfth and two thirteenth chapters. The very handsome binding betrays almost certainly a Lyonnaise origin; thus probably the book was printed at Lyons; but the printing is very far from perfect. The capital letters at the head of the chapters are of different types. Occasionally they are missing altogether, or replaced by small letters of the ordinary type of the book in the midst of large blank squares. Again misprints are frequent, and a remarkable quantity of misplaced and senseless apostrophes are scattered all over the pages. In short, says M. Stein: "Ce serait folie que de voir là autre chose qu'une vulgaire et malhonnête contrefaçon."

The author probably belonged to the large class of the dissatisfied of the sixteenth century; he wanted a universal reform of society, and thought he might bring it about by attacking everybody and everything: State, church, nobles, the rich, priests, lawyers, women, etc. In order to give more force to his tirades he chose to publish them under the name of Rabelais.

Did Rabelais himself know anything about it? Among the "lettres patentes" of Henri II there is one (August 6, 1550) which shows that he complained of bad and inaccurate reprints of his books, and even of insipid and scandalous imitations. (See for a copy of this letter the Rabelais edition of the Bibliophile Jacob, Paris, 1840, p. li of the Preface.) But it is impossible to say whether he knew of the special text under discussion. Stein has found no condemnation of it in the "Arrêts du Parlement."

Thus it appears that the discovery of M. Rosenthal will not help to solve a single one of the numerous questions connected with the fifth book of Pantagruel. It leaves the problem exactly where it was before.

One minor point is interesting. Folio 14 contains a part of the text printed in the form of a bottle. Stein remarks about it:

"On ne peut, en la voyant [la bouteille] paraître ici, s'empêcher de songer immédiatement à la dive bouteille toute revestue de pur et beau cristallin, en forme ovale dont Bacbuc explique la glose à Panurge au V^e livre de